

The left side of the page features a decorative design consisting of several vertical stripes in shades of light brown and tan. Overlaid on these stripes are several solid brown circles of varying sizes, arranged in a vertical, slightly staggered pattern. The largest circle is at the top, with smaller ones below it, creating a sense of movement and depth.

*FACULTY AND ADMINISTRATOR  
PERSPECTIVES ON THE INTEGRATION  
OF A BIBLICAL WORLDVIEW IN  
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION*

By: Rachel Meredith

# SENIOR RESEARCH PROJECT

- Qualitative Study—Interviews
- Eight faculty and eight administrators: random representation

## Questions:

- *What distinguishes Christian education from secular education?*
- *How would you define a 'biblical worldview'?*
- *Should professors communicate biblical principles in the classroom?*
- *How do you teach your students to incorporate biblical principles in their field when they enter the workplace?*



# SECULAR VS. SACRED

*“There are not two realities, but only one reality,  
and that is the reality of God, which has become  
manifest in Christ in the reality of the world.”*

*~Dietrich Bonhoeffer*



# SECULAR VS. SACRED

*I think it means that that person does not live a separated life. They don't have compartments; they aren't a Christian over here and a basketball coach over here and not have any connection between these two."*

*~Administrator*



# DEFINITIONS

*How would you define a ‘biblical worldview?’*

*“That’s a very good question. We all use that terminology, but nobody has ever asked us to define it.”*

*~Administrator*

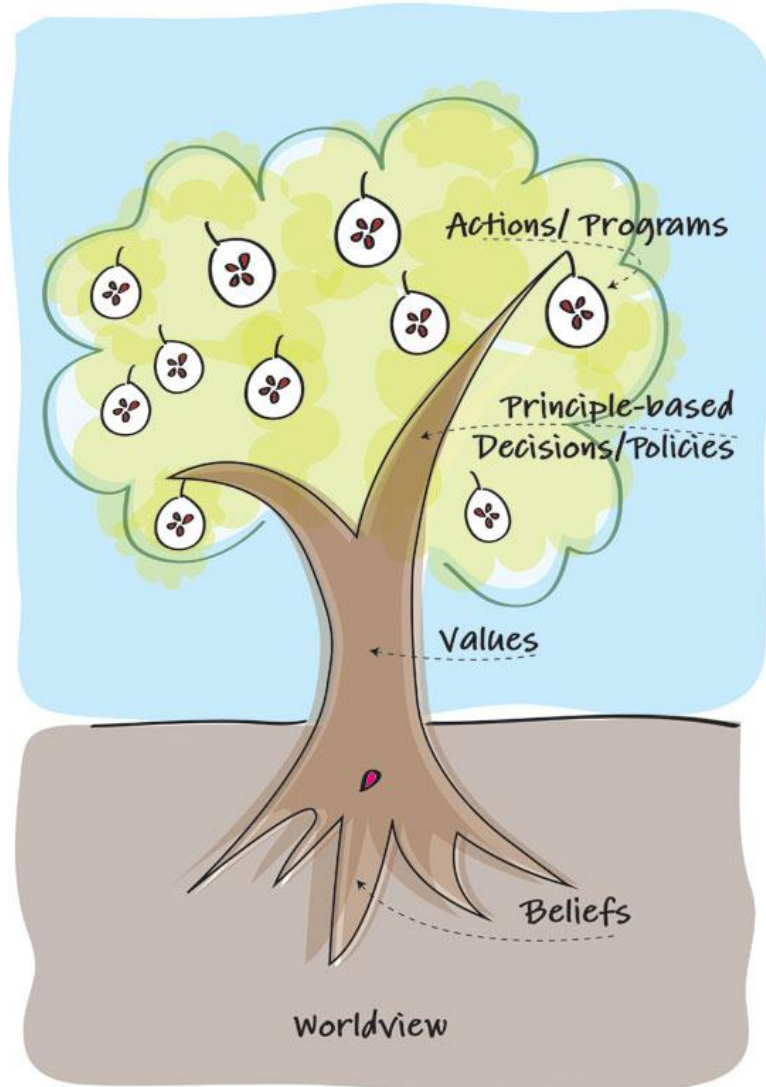


# DEFINITIONS

*A biblical worldview is an overarching approach as provided by the Bible to understanding God, man's relationship to God, and man's interaction with every other sphere of human life.*



# Belief Tree



# GEORGE BARNA

*“By helping to clarify what a person believes to be important, true and desirable, a worldview has a dramatic influence on a person’s choices in any given situation.”*

[www.barna.org/transformation-articles/252-barna-survey-examines-changes-in-worldview-among-christians-over-the-past-13-years](http://www.barna.org/transformation-articles/252-barna-survey-examines-changes-in-worldview-among-christians-over-the-past-13-years)





# THINKING LIKE A CHRISTIAN

**Theology**—Is there a God, and what is God like?

**Philosophy**—What is real, and what is true?

**Biology**—What is the origin of life?

**Psychology**—What is the basic nature of mankind?

**Ethics**—What is right?

**Sociology**—How should society be structured?

**Law**—What is the basis for law?

**Politics**—What is the purpose of government?

**Economics**—What produces a sound economy?

**History**—How should we interpret human events?



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# BIOLOGY

- “The Beginning” must include faith
- Design in the universe points to a Creator
- The image of God



# PSYCHOLOGY

- Dualistic

- Image of God

*“So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.”*  
~Genesis 1:27

- Sinful nature of man

*“For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.”*  
~Romans 3:23



# PSYCHOLOGY

*“And so when you look at (how to teach) and overlay that with the Christian perspective, it makes a whole lot of difference because we’re now viewing children as individuals who were created by God, rather than a kid. And so, every time that child has issues that are challenging to us, we have to go back and remember that this child is a child of God, and therefore we can’t just discard that child or not give them the attention they need.”*

*~Faculty*



# ECONOMICS

- Work is GOOD!
  - *“The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it.”*  
~Genesis 2:15
- Ownership of Private Property
- Freedom and Responsibility



# ECONOMICS

- *“Private property is not a biblical concept.”*  
~*Faculty*
- Social Justice



# ETHICS

- Right and Wrong

- Standard of Christianity?

*“God did this so that, by two unchangeable things in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled to take hold of the hope offered to us may be greatly encouraged.”*

*~Hebrews 6:18*





# ETHICS

*“See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the basic principles of this world rather than on Christ.”*

*~Colossians 2:8*



# ETHICS

*“I go through in—particularly my (graduate level) class—where I think I have a little more charge in trying to communicate ethics and biblical principles than I feel quite as compelled to do in undergrad because we have three religion classes and a philosophy class that we’re sort of required (sic) every undergraduate to take.”*

*~Faculty*



# ETHICS

*“So what is the moral and ethical thing to do in various situations? . . . . I would really prefer that students come to those conclusions by themselves.”*

*~Faculty*



# QUOTES

*“ . . . the secular student, having long since abandoned the Bible as any kind of source of truth, is just floundering out there because they have nothing about which they can say,*

***‘this is true.’”***

*~Faculty*



# QUOTES

*“Whatever concepts and topics you are talking about, how can you also integrate or apply the biblical principle, regardless of what discipline that might be. . . . And you can’t do that without having internalized that biblical worldview. So I count on the faculty having that . . .”*

*~Administrator*

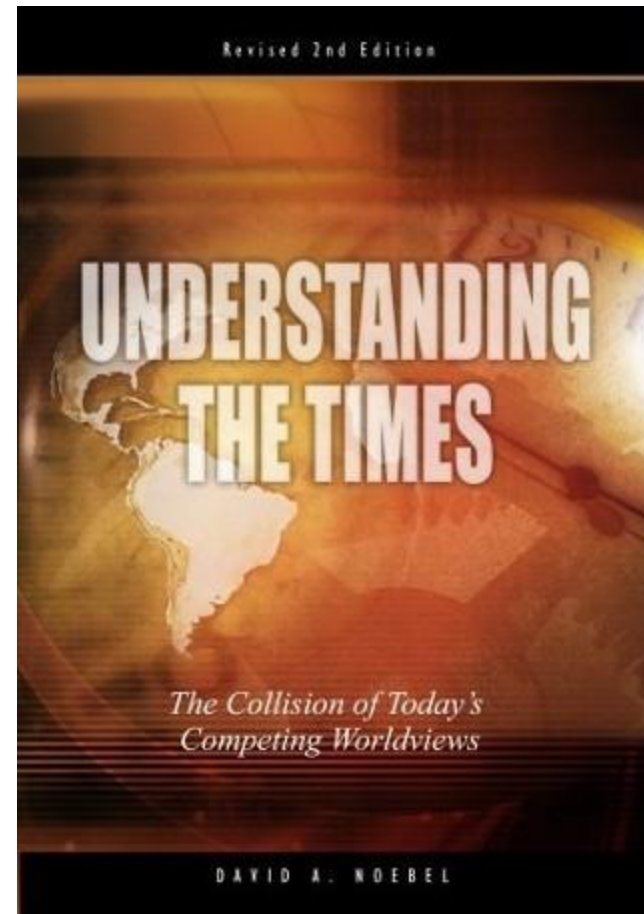
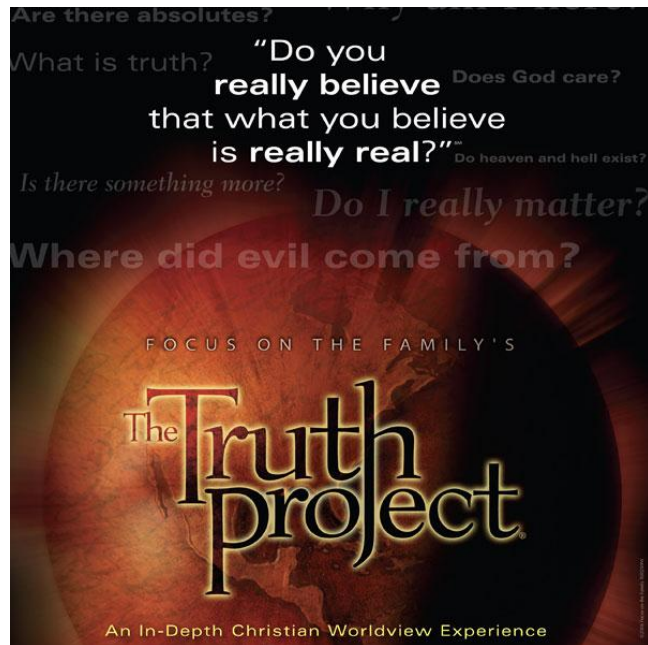


# CONCLUSIONS

- A biblical worldview is essential in order for students' behavior to differ from that of unbelievers
- Administrators assume faculty are teaching their discipline from a biblical worldview
- Faculty do not all teach from a biblical worldview
- Faculty separate sacred from secular
- Members of faculty avoid a standard of truth



# RESOURCES



<http://www.life-community.com/Connect/truthproject.html>

<http://getglue.com/books/understanding-times-collision-of-todays-competing-worldviews/david-noebel>

